The recent events in Brussels, Belgium, and other parts of the world are reminders that acts of violence can happen at any place and anytime. One of the most effective ways to prevent terrorism is to report suspicious activity. Informed and alert communities help keep our nation safe. “If You See Something, Say Something” is a national campaign that helps individuals become more aware of the various indicators of terrorism. It also stresses the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement agencies. The Idaho Criminal Intelligence Center evaluates all suspicious activity reports to combat terrorist acts within Idaho. If you see suspicious activity in Idaho, visit https://www.isp.idaho.gov/icic/ to file a report. If it is an emergency, please call 911. To learn more about the campaign, you can visit the “If You See Something, Say Something” page on the Department of Homeland Security’s website at https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something/campaign.

RUN, HIDE, OR FIGHT

A video created by both the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Houston Mayor’s Office of Public Safety depicts what the public should do if they find themselves in the middle of an active shooter situation. If you find yourself in this situation, you must choose to run, hide, or fight. Follow these tips:

Run: Have an escape route in mind, do not grab your belongings, and keep your hands visible.

Hide: Hide out of the shooter’s view, lock and block the entryway, and silence all phones.

Fight: Use only as a last resort and only when you are in imminent danger, try to disable the shooter, and be physically aggressive by throwing objects at the shooter.

Call 911 once it is safe to do so. To view the full video, visit the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s website at https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/office-of-partner-engagement/active-shooter-incidents/run-hide-fight-video.

BE PREPARED AHEAD OF TIME

DHS has several online courses and webinars you can take to make yourself better prepared for a terrorist event. These courses are available for the public at no cost and can be completed on your own time. The videos are specifically for various types of commercial facilities. While you may not work in those specific types of facilities, you may frequently visit them. These courses and videos are a great resource for workplace training sessions. To access these materials, visit::
Ada County Emergency Management has a web page with various resources on terrorism preparedness. To learn more about different types of terrorism, visit https://adacounty.id.gov/accem/How-to-Prepare-Resources/Terrorism.